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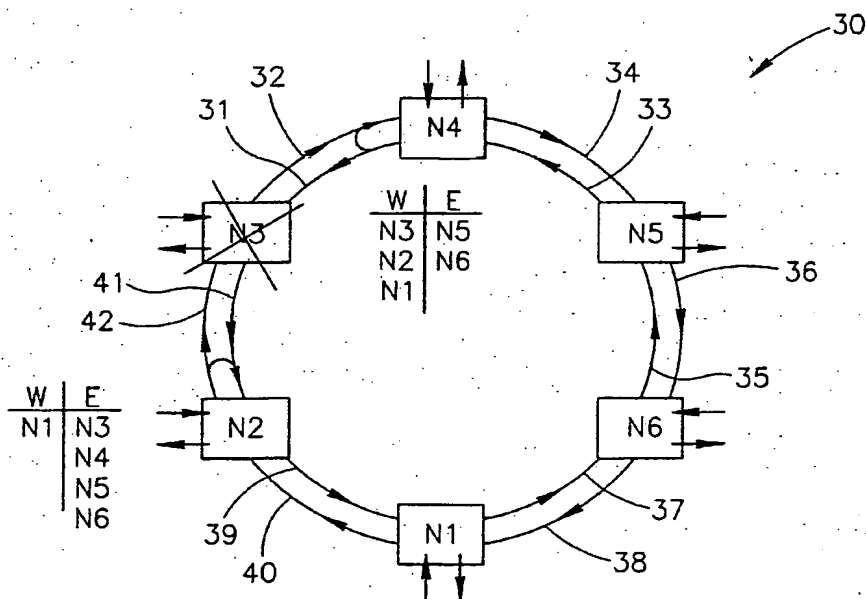
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(54) Title: METHOD FOR PROTECTION OF ETHERNET TRAFFIC IN OPTICAL RING NETWORKS



(57) Abstract: A method for protecting Ethernet data packets transmitted over SDH/SONET traffic in a ring-like optical network formed by a number of nodes, the method includes utilizing MS-SPRING/BLSR system for SDH/SONET traffic protection and, in case of one or more network failures that result in at least one isolated node in the network, the method comprises preventing initiation of a squelching algorithm of the MS-SPRING/BLSR system with respect to the SDH/SONET virtual containers carrying the data Ethernet packets, while ensuring that the standardized use of byte J1 is prevented with respect to the same SDH/SONET virtual containers carrying the Ethernet packets.

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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.  
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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER  
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## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, INSPEC

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	<p>WO 02 23779 A (CIENA CORP ;SEMAAN GHASSAN (US)) 21 March 2002 (2002-03-21)</p> <p>page 2, line 3 - line 14 page 4, line 6 - line 8 page 6, line 16 - line 17 page 8, line 11 - line 19 page 10, line 13 - line 20 page 11, line 1 - line 2 page 11, line 11 - line 13 page 12, line 13 - line 16 page 14, line 1 - line 3 page 16, line 15 - line 22 page 17, line 15 - line 23 page 18, line 1 - line 9 page 19, line 4 - line 6 claim 7 figure 1 figure 2</p> <p style="text-align: center;">--- -/-</p>	1-10

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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A	<p>EP 0 708 542 A (AT &amp; T CORP)  24 April 1996 (1996-04-24)  column 1, line 31 - line 33  column 2, line 29 - line 36  column 3, line 14 - line 15  column 3, line 45 - line 47  column 5, line 44 - line 50  column 7, line 19 - line 23  column 9, line 1 - line 5  figure 1  figures 6-22</p> <p>---</p>	1-10
A	<p>EP 0 994 591 A (NORTEL NETWORKS CORP)  19 April 2000 (2000-04-19)  column 3, line 27 - line 30  column 3, line 54 - line 57  column 10, line 25 - line 28  column 15, line 20 - line 24  column 17, line 34 - line 35  figure 3</p> <p>---</p>	1,2,7
A	<p>EP 0 949 777 A (NORTEL NETWORKS CORP)  13 October 1999 (1999-10-13)  column 1, line 7 - line 11  column 1, line 23 - line 25  column 2, line 34 - line 36  column 3, line 29 - line 38  column 6, line 30 - line 36  column 8, line 43 - line 52  figure 4</p> <p>-----</p>	1,2,7

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Information on patent family members

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